

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method in a computer system for communicating the present
2 status of a job queue that contains a plurality of print jobs, comprising:
3 controlling a display device to display a plurality of images; and
4 wherein each image is a print preview image of a different one of the
5 plurality of print jobs in the job queue.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of images are displayed
2 simultaneously.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of images are displayed
2 simultaneously and the images are displayed in an arrangement indicative of
3 an order the plurality of jobs are presently lined up in the queue.
- 1 4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:
2 receiving a request to line up the jobs in the job queue in a different
3 order;
4 in response to the request, rearranging the jobs in the job queue so
5 that the jobs are lined up in the different order; and
6 in response to the request, controlling the display device to display the
7 images in a modified arrangement, wherein the modified arrangement
8 indicates the jobs are lined up in the different order.
- 1 5. The method of claim 3, further comprising:
2 receiving a request to view multiple pages of a selected one of the
3 images, wherein the selected image is a print preview image of a single page
4 of a first job from the plurality of jobs; and
5 in response to the request, controlling the display device to display a
6 print preview image of multiple pages of the first job.

- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the method is performed by a
2 computer device coupled to a printing device over a communication link; and
3 wherein the job queue services the printing device.
- 1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the method is performed by a
2 printing device and the display device is local to the printing device.
- 1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the controlling step is not performed
2 until at least one personal identification number (PIN) is received.
- 1 9. The method of claim 4, wherein the request is received by a user
2 dragging and dropping at least one of the displayed images.
- 1 10. A printing device serviced by a job queue, comprising:
2 means for receiving a request for the present status of the job queue;
3 and
4 means for responding to the request by:
5 (i) generating a print preview image of at least some of the jobs
6 in the job queue when the job queue includes a plurality of jobs; and
7 (ii) displaying the print preview images.
- 1 11. The printing device of claim 10, wherein the responding means
2 displays the print preview images in an arrangement that is indicative of the
3 way the corresponding jobs are lined up in the job queue.
- 1 12. The printing device of claim 10, wherein the responding means
2 displays the print preview images in an order based upon an order the
3 corresponding jobs are lined up in the job queue.
- 1 13. The printing device of claim 10, further comprising:
2 means for receiving a selection of one of the displayed images,
3 wherein the selected image is a print preview image of a first job in the job
4 queue;

5 means for receiving a request to cancel a job the selected print preview
6 image represents; and
7 means for responding to the request by canceling the first job.

1 14. The printing device of claim 10, further comprising:

2 means for receiving a user selection of one of the displayed images,
3 wherein the selected image is a print preview image of a first job in the job
4 queue;

5 means for receiving a request to suspend a job the selected print
6 preview image represents;

7 means for responding to the request by suspending the first job.

1 15. The printing device of claim 10, wherein the responding means
2 simultaneously displays the print preview images on a display device in an
3 arrangement that is indicative of the way the corresponding jobs are lined up
4 in the job queue and the printing device further comprising:

5 means for allowing a user to change the way the jobs are lined up in
6 the job queue by rearranging the print preview images.

1 16. A printing device, comprising:

2 a display device;

3 a controller; and

4 wherein the controller includes the capability to:

5 (a) generate a print preview image of a job in a job queue; and

6 (b) control the display device to display the print preview image.

1 17. The printing device of claim 16, wherein the controller includes the
2 capability to:

3 (c) generate a print preview image of multiple jobs in the job
4 queue when the job queue contains a plurality of jobs;

5 (d) control the display device to simultaneously display at least
6 some of the print preview images of the multiple jobs.

1 18. The printing device of claim 16, wherein the controller includes the
2 capability to:

3 (c) generate a print preview image of a set of jobs in the job
4 queue when the job queue contains a plurality of jobs;

5 (d) control the display device to simultaneously display the print
6 preview images in an arrangement that indicates the way the set of jobs are
7 lined up in the job queue.

1 19. A method in a computer system for communicating the present
2 status of a job queue that contains a plurality of jobs, comprising:

3 (a) identifying those jobs in the queue that include an indicator
4 that indicates a print preview image of the job should not be displayed;

5 (b) displaying a print preview image of each job in the job queue
6 not identified at step (a);

7 (c) displaying a pre-defined image for each job in the job queue
8 identified at step (a); and

9 wherein the pre-defined image does not reveal any of the printable
10 information described by the corresponding job.

1 20. The method of claim 19, wherein step (b) and step (c) are
2 performed substantially simultaneously.

1 21. The method of claim 19, wherein the displayed images are
2 arranged so as to indicate the order the plurality of jobs are lined up in the job
3 queue.

1 22. The method of claim 19, wherein the pre-defined image is an image
2 of a lock.

1 23. A method in a computer system for communicating the present
2 status of a job queue that contains a plurality of print jobs, comprising:
3 transmitting a request to a print server, where the print server is
4 responsive to the request by returning a plurality of images each image being
5 a print preview image of a different job in the job queue;
6 receiving the plurality of print preview images; and
7 displaying at least some of the print preview images.

1 24. The method of claim 24, wherein the print preview images are
2 displayed in an arrangement that is indicative of the way the corresponding
3 jobs are lined up in the job queue.

1 25. A method in a computer system for communicating the present
2 status of a job queue that contains a plurality of print jobs, comprising:
3 receiving a request from a client,
4 responding to the request by transmitting at least one image to the
5 client;
6 wherein the image is a print preview image of one of the plurality of
7 jobs.

1 26. One or more computer-readable that includes computer executable
2 instruction for graphically communicating a present status of a job queue, the
3 instructions including:
4 first instructions for responding to a request for a present status of a job
5 queue by displaying a print preview image of at least some of the jobs in the
6 job queue.

1 27. The computer readable medium of claim 27, wherein the print
2 preview images are displayed in arrangement that indicates an order the print
3 jobs are lined up in the job queue.

1 28. A method in a computer system, comprising:

2 receiving a first request to transmit an electronic document to a remote
3 destination,
4 in response to the first request, placing a send job in a queue;
5 receiving a second request for the present status of the queue;
6 responding to the request, at least in part, by displaying an image of at
7 least a portion of the document.